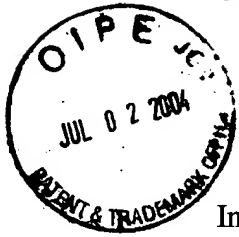


00862.021858.

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

KEN-ICHI OHTA, et al.

Application No.: 09/521,850

Filed: March 9, 2000

For: IMAGE PROCESSING  
APPARATUS AND METHOD,  
AND STORAGE MEDIUM

Examiner: D. Jones

Group Art Unit: 2622

June 28, 2004

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Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the following U.S. Application:

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>	<u>GROUP ART UNIT</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>
09/434,404	November 5, 1999	2622	00862.003194.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of the application specification, claims and drawings for the foregoing U.S. Application is enclosed.

07/07/2004 NROCHA1 00000022 09521850

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180.00 OP

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

June 28, 2004  
(Date of Deposit)

Edward A. Kmett (Reg. No.: 42,746)  
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

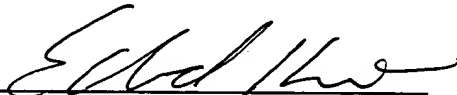
Signature

June 28, 2004  
Date of Signature

The subject application has received an Office Action on the merits but has not yet received either a final action or a Notice Of Allowance. Accordingly, this Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and is accompanied by the \$180.00 fee specified at 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Consideration of the art cited herein is accordingly deemed proper, and such action is respectfully requested. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449 and returning the initialed form to Applicants with the next communication.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Edward A. Kmett  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 42,746

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-2200  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

FORM TOS-49 (modified)

ATTY DOCKET NO.

APPLICATION NO.

00862.021858.

09/521,850

APPLICANT

KEN-ICHI OHTA, et al.

FILING DATE

March 9, 2000

GROUP

2622

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		U.S. Application No. 09/434,404, filed November 5, 1999.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.